



*Association for the Protection of  
Human Being and Environment for a  
Sustainable Development in the  
World - ECOM*

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Tel./fax: +4-0241-672835; Mobil: 0724395695

Email: [ecomctro@gmail.com](mailto:ecomctro@gmail.com)

## Newsletter no.4

### **Proposed solutions, adopted Solutions and Examples of Good Practices**

#### **Project title: “Leave your Environmentalist Spirit Online for the Black Sea Basin” - Spirit BSB online**

The project consortium consists of 4 partners:

LP Coordinator - *Association for the Protection of Human Being and Environment for a Sustainable Development in the World-ECOM, Romania*

P1- *Sinop University, Sinop, Turkey*

P2-*Chamber of Agriculture of Trabzon, Turkey*

P3-*International Center for Social Research and Policy Analysis in Tbilisi, Georgia.*

According to the Project Implementation Plan, within the activity *T2.1 Development of “Pollution and solutions in BSB - Manual for everyone”* we made a manual. This manual contains several topics. Through these newsletters we present these topics. Today we choose to present you:

### **Proposed Solutions**

#### **Ecological changes**

For management intends it is beneficial to consider environmental changes in well-defined steps, stages or classes. The Sea is still degraded, but substantial improvements have occurred over the last three decades.

#### **Eutrophication/nutrient-enrichment**

The following recommendations are made:

- Improve routine Black Sea nutrient monitoring in the countries. All countries should monitor the Black Sea with the same sampling frequency to improve data comparability.
- Standardise and harmonise the quantification of river loads. Procedures giving comparable results should be adopted for the assessment of loads at the most downstream points in all major rivers discharging into the Black Sea.
- Develop a nutrient source apportionment model for the whole Black Sea Basin to improve existing understanding of nutrient sources.

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## Commercial marine living resources

The following recommendations are made:

- A regionally agreed system needs to be developed to match fishing effort to stocks (prohibition periods, minimum admissible fish length, etc).
- Harmonise the methodologies for collection and collation of fisheries statistics at a regional level
- Establish regionally agreed national fishing zones in all Black Sea countries
- All countries should take greater effort to combat illegal fishing practices.
- Encourage expansion of the mariculture sector, but only if account is taken of environmental considerations. The precautionary principal should be applied.

## Chemical pollution

The following recommendations are made:

- Develop a regionally agreed list of priority contaminants for monitoring purposes.
- Establish national plans to reduce/prevent pollution of the Black Sea.
- Build the capacity of environmental authorities to enforce existing regulations on the discharge of priority pollutants from both point and diffuse sources.
- Develop national/regional public awareness programmes to promote bottom-up pressure on decision makers in order to improve the environmental status of the Black Sea
- Aid industrial sectors (including mining enterprises) to develop Environmental Management Systems and practice cleaner production activities

## Biodiversity

The following recommendations are made:

- Continue capacity-building and training of marine scientists.
- Allow environmentalists greater access to key decision-makers in organisations throughout the Black Sea region.
- Undertake regular re-evaluations of major marine systematic (biological) groups in each of the BS countries, using the latest IUCN criteria and guidelines for application at the regional level.
- Develop a habitat- and ecosystem- oriented approach to biodiversity management. Often it is clearer which impacts are responsible for the deterioration of habitats than it is for individual species

## Stakeholders analysis

The following recommendations are made:

- Develop focused stakeholder involvement strategies for livestock industry and port and harbour administrators to help them recognize and remedy actions that adversely impact the Black Sea ecosystem.
- Target activities towards helping groups to adjust their current practices to more environmentally sustainable approaches, in all areas and issues.
- Increase outreach efforts that emphasize the importance of biodiversity and habitat conservation.

## Protection approach to the seagrass ecosystem of the Black Sea

Seagrass are marine angiosperms that inhabit a shallow, unconsolidated bottoms of most coastal areas. They are considered a valuable component of coastal ecosystems because of the identification of different ecological functions, services and resource. Seagrass biosensors, rich in species diversity, are cornerstone and highly productive ecosystems

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which fulfil a key role in the world. The fate of seagrass can provide resource managers with advance signs of deteriorating ecological conditions caused by poor water quality and pollution.

#### **Main points for taking into consideration of seagrass are:**

- Seagrass increase habitat diversity the leaves and the roots provide suitable substratum to a large number of organisms and dense leaf canopies determine microhabitats of low-light availability) and, as a result promote and sustain the overall biodiversity of coastal ecosystems;
- Seagrass ecosystems are characterized by a high biological productivity not only due to the seagrass themselves but also to that of the associated fauna and flora, which in many cases is higher than that of the seagrass;

#### **MPA in the Black Sea**

The Black Sea is an almost enclosed sea with high natural values although its biodiversity is under great threat from a number of human sources e.g. pollution, over-fishing, marine traffic & transport, exploitation of natural resources, invasive exotic species, climate change. Several examples of continuing biodiversity loss are the tremendous reduce of size of Zernov's *Phyllophora nervosa* beds, depletion of turbot stocks, critical status of sturgeons, loss of habitat for the Monk Seals, etc. The Black Sea states, through the Bucharest Convention, are making some inroads into improving the poor environmental situation. However, one important tool - the designation of Marine Protected Areas or MPAs - which is increasingly being applied in western Europe and called for in the Marine Strategy Directive, is being still insufficiently applied in the Black Sea region. The representation of marine sites in the Black Sea countries' protected area systems as a whole, and especially in the offshore zone is poor.

European Parliament and the Council in the 6th Community Action Programme include:

- Establishing the Natura network and implementing the necessary technical and financial instruments and measures required for its full implementation and for the protection, outside the Natura 2000 areas, of species protected under the Habitats and Birds Directives (Art 6.2.a. 7th indent)
- Further promote the protection of marine areas, in particular with the Natura 2000 network as well as by other feasible Community means (Art. 6.2.g. 4th indent).

#### **Integrated coastal zone management (ICZM)**

Coastal zones have become the most preferable areas in both cultural and economic views throughout the history and have played important roles in the development of countries by creating opportunities for societies' economic and social development.

Sharply increasing world population particularly in coastal zones rapidly destruct the coastal areas rich in natural wealth.

#### **Needs for Coastal Zone Management**

The reasons for these priority problems and their potential effects have been analyzed; situation analysis regarding the province have been carried out; necessary outputs and evaluation have been obtained.

#### **European Union and ICZM**

From 1996 to 1999, the Commission operated a Demonstration Programme on ICZM designed around a series of 35 demonstration projects and 6 thematic studies. This programme was aimed to:

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- Provide technical information about sustainable coastal zone management, and
- Stimulate a broad debate among the various actors involved in the planning, management or use of European coastal zones.

## Examples Of Good Practice

In 2007, the EU launched the Black Sea Synergy initiative for deeper regional development cooperation involving Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Romania, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, Turkey and Ukraine.

The activity of the Convention for the Protection of the Black Sea against Pollution, also called the Bucharest Convention.

With the support of the EU, the Black Sea countries are making good progress in the field of maritime affairs and the blue economy, with a special focus on marine research and innovation, blue skills and careers and conservation of the marine environment.

**Blue economy - All economic activities related to oceans, seas and coasts.**

It covers a wide range of interconnected sectors, both established and developing, such as aquaculture, fishing, shipbuilding, coastal tourism, offshore oil and gas extraction, maritime transport, environmental protection, wind and ocean energy and biotechnology. Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda for 2019 for the Black Sea Joint Maritime Agenda for the Black Sea in 2019.

### CleanSeaNet service

CleanSeaNet is a European oil spill and satellite tracking service that provides assistance to participating States in the following activities:

- Identification and monitoring of oil pollution on the sea surface;
- Monitoring accidental pollution during emergencies;
- Contributing to the identification of pollutants.

### For MPAs in the Black Sea

The **MISIS Project** ‘MSFD Guiding Improvements in the Black Sea Integrated Monitoring System (EC DG Env. Project MISIS: No. 07.020400/2012/616044/SUB/D2) is financed by EC as an activity under the EC DG Env. Programme ‘Preparatory action - Environmental monitoring of the Black Sea Basin and a common European framework programme for development of the Black Sea region/Black Sea and Mediterranean 2011.

For more informations please visit our website <https://www.spiritbsb.online/>.

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